



Camp Eureka!

2006

A summer Natural History Camp for
Children with Visual Impairments



Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge photo)

Children 8-13 years old who are blind or have severe visual impairments are invited to explore western Montana's wetlands and forests under the guidance of mentors who are blind, and with expert educators and naturalists specially trained to work with children who have visual impairments

Experiences and memories that last ...

A child is guided into a quiet grove of trees. After the initial unease she begins to move slowly and finds the ground is somewhat uneven, but soft with needles beneath her feet. The air has a dry, resinous smell. She is aware of the subtle sound as each foot sinks quietly on the soft bed of needles. A twig snaps beneath her feet, the distant high, sweet melodious tune of a songbird drifts in on the breeze, an insect buzzes by her ear and is gone. Occasionally a leaf or branch brushes her ankle. Suddenly her outstretched fingers touch something solid. She feels the rough, deeply grooved bark of a tree and wraps her arms around its large girth, inhaling the scent of its sweet bark in the warm sun. Personal growth through personal discovery embodies the spirit of *Camp Eureka!*



Dr. Erick Greene and campers record bird songs
(Michael Gallacher/Missoulain photo)

Fun and adventure

Camp activities will be safe, interactive and fun, and supplemented by music, story-telling, art, good food, sharing, games, and ample peer and mentor time. The children will make new discoveries, learn new skills, and gain greater independence.



Historic Slack Lodge at Teller (Teller Refuge photo)

Summer camp setting

The Teller Wildlife Refuge is a 1200 acre private refuge in the Bitterroot Valley, 35 miles south of Missoula, Montana. The refuge borders the beautiful Bitterroot River and rests between the Bitterroot and Sapphire Mountain Ranges. Its diverse landscape features riparian forests, ponds, streams, fields, meadows, several nature trails and an "adventure" tent camp. The refuge has a lovely, fully restored historic home where campers will be able to relax and spend the night bed and breakfast style. Campers will explore here and at the nearby Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge.



Campers and Mentors explore Gird Creek
(MOCSI photo)

Camp Eureka! 2006

Registration

June 18th - 23rd, 2006
For Children 8-13 years old

Camper Information

Name: _____

Gender: _____ male _____ female

Age on first day of camp: _____

Grade in School next fall: _____

School: _____

Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s): _____
(first & last)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Evening Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Mail registration form to:

Camp Eureka! 2006
Montana Conservation Science Institute
5200 Upper Miller Creek Road
Missoula, MT 59803



Camp musician Chip Jasmin (MOCSI photo)

Contact Information:

Beth Underwood

Email: underhogg@montana.com

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Home office: 406-642-3035

Montana Conservation Science Institute

Camp director

Beth Underwood, environmental education (EE) specialist for the Montana Conservation Science Institute has designed and directed EE programs for national wildlife refuges in western Montana. She was recognized twice as state environmental educator of the year. As an educator with visual impairment, she has a special appreciation for the power of the natural world to foster confidence and curiosity in children with visual impairment.



Camp Eureka! 2005 (MOCSI photo)

Offered by:

Montana Conservation Science Institute

In partnership with:

National Federation of the Blind
National Center for Blind Youth in Science

www.nfb.org

Montana Association for the Blind

With special thanks for the cooperation of:
Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

www.msdb.mt.gov